

FILED

MAR 17 2008

**NANCY MAYER WHITTINGTON, CLERK
U.S. DISTRICT COURT**

Ann Powers,

Plaintiff,

V.

The Bureau of Engraving & Printing,

Defendant.

Civil Action No. **08-0451**


MEMORANDUM OPINION

This matter is before the Court on its initial review of plaintiff's *pro se* complaint and application for leave to proceed *in forma pauperis*. The Court will grant the *in forma pauperis* application and dismiss the case because the complaint fails to meet the minimal pleading requirements of Rule 8(a) of the Federal Rules of Civil Procedure.

Pro se litigants must comply with the Federal Rules of Civil Procedure. *Jarrell v. Tisch*, 656 F. Supp. 237, 239 (D.D.C. 1987). Rule 8(a) of the Federal Rules of Civil Procedure requires complaints to contain “ (1) a short and plain statement of the grounds for the court's jurisdiction [and] (2) a short and plain statement of the claim showing that the pleader is entitled to relief.” Fed. R. Civ. P. 8(a); *see Ciralsky v. CIA*, 355 F.3d 661, 668-71 (D.C. Cir. 2004). The Rule 8 standard ensures that defendants receive fair notice of the claim being asserted so that they can prepare a responsive answer and an adequate defense and determine whether the doctrine of *res judicata* applies. *Brown v. Califano*, 75 F.R.D. 497, 498 (D.D.C. 1977).

Plaintiff, a resident of Washington, D.C., sues the Bureau of Engraving and Printing but for what is unclear. The disjointed statements set forth in the complaint fail to provide adequate

notice of a claim. The Court therefore will dismiss the complaint by separate Order issued contemporaneously with this Memorandum Opinion.


United States District Judge

Date: March 12, 2008